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JARED J. GROGAN,

Plaintiff, : 20-CV-3345 (LTS) (OTW)

-against- : ORDER

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY and NYU IN ABU DHABI CORPORATION,

Defendants.

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ONA T. WANG, United States Magistrate Judge:

The Court has reviewed *pro se* Plaintiff's letters (ECF 19-23) regarding Plaintiff's attempts to effect service of process on defendant New York University ("NYU") and requesting permission to effect service through alternative means, specifically through email to NYU's President, Andrew Hamilton. On May 4, 2021, Judge Swain ruled on a similar request by Plaintiff by re-opening this action (which was dismissed without prejudice on April 14, 2021 for failure to prosecute), extending the time to effect service on NYU and co-defendant NYU in Abu Dhabi Corporation to June 30, 2021, and denying without prejudice Plaintiff's request for alternative service. Plaintiff's subsequent filings report service on NYU in Abu Dhabi Corporation through the Secretary of State on June 24, 2021 and an unsuccessful attempt to serve NYU on June 25, 2021. (ECF 22).¹

In light of Plaintiff's *pro se* status, documented attempts to serve NYU, and ongoing health issues, the Court will *sua sponte* **GRANT** Plaintiff another extension, until **September 24**,

¹ Plaintiff's filings also report phone calls made to NYU's Office of General Counsel on June 25, 2021 and/or June 28, 2021 and an email to NYU's Office of General Counsel on June 29, 2021. (ECF 20-2; ECF 21; ECF 22 at 2).

2021, to effectuate service of process. Plaintiff is directed to **timely** resume attempts to serve NYU and not wait until the days immediately preceding the September 24, 2021 deadline.

However, Plaintiff's request to serve NYU through email is again **DENIED** without prejudice.

A plaintiff seeking to effect service of process by alternative means must make a showing that statutorily prescribed methods of service are "impracticable." See Snyder v. Alternate Energy Inc., 19 Misc. 3d 954, 959, 857 N.Y.S.2d 442, 446 (Civ. Ct. 2008); see also TAGC Mgmt., LLC v. Lehman, 842 F. Supp. 2d 575, 585 (S.D.N.Y. 2012). Plaintiff has not demonstrated that it would be impracticable to serve NYU by all traditional methods of service authorized by law. For example, although attempts at in-person service at 70 Washington Square South, New York, NY 10012 have been unsuccessful, Plaintiff has not demonstrated that it is impracticable to "deliver[] a copy of the summons and of the complaint to an officer [such as President Hamilton], a managing or general agent, or any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process." Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(h)(1)(B); see N.Y.C.P.L.R. § 311. Additionally, Plaintiff has not shown that he cannot effect service through mail, following the procedures set out by N.Y.C.P.L.R. § 312-a. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(h)(1)(A) & 4(e)(1) (permitting service pursuant to the law of either the state in which the district court sits or in which service is effected). The Court notes that NYU has been served by such means during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, including in cases with *pro se* plaintiffs.² To the extent that Plaintiff has questions regarding service of process, he is directed to contact the Court's Pro Se Intake Unit

² See Belanger v. New York University et al, 1:21-cv-01644-GHW-JLC (Affidavit of Service filed as ECF 10); Morren v. New York University et al, 1:20-cv-10802-JPC-OTW (Statement of Service by Mail and Acnkowledgment of Receipt filed as ECF 10). Separately, the Court notes that NYU's website states that, in fall 2021, "NYU will resume in-person classroom instruction and most other pre-COVID activities, and administrative offices will begin in-person operations again." See NYU, "NYU Returns: Summer and Fall 2021," https://www.nyu.edu/life/safety-health-wellness/coronavirus-information.html.

(https://www.nysd.uscourts.gov/prose; 212-805-0175) or the New York Legal Assistance Group's Pro Se Clinic (https://nylag.org/pro-se-clinic; 212-659-6190).

The Clerk of Court is directed to mail a copy of this Order to the pro se Plaintiff.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: August 5, 2021

New York, New York

s/ Ona T. Wang

Ona T. WangUnited States Magistrate Judge